

DETAILED ACTION

Claims 2 – 16 and 31 are allowed over the prior art of record.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An Examiner's Amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment December 13, 2010.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend paragraphs [0001] and [0017] of the instant specification as follows:

[0001] The present invention relates to a method, according to the preamble of claim 3 ~~4~~, for classifying and selecting records. The invention also relates to a ~~classification system according to claim 18 and to a computer~~ readable storage medium program product according to claim 31 ~~32~~.

[0017] More specifically, the method, according to the invention, for classifying and selecting records ~~selecting rating~~ is characterized by what is stated in ~~the characterizing portion of claim 3~~ 4. ~~The means, according to the invention, are, in turn, characterized by what is stated in the characterizing portion of claim 18, and the computer~~ readable storage medium program product, according to the invention, is characterized in ~~the characterizing portion of claim 31~~ 32.

Reasons For Allowance

Claims 2 – 16 and 31 are allowed over the prior art of record.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record does not teach or fairly suggest the method or computer readable medium as recited in independent claims 3 and 31 wherein the steps include selecting a class using the accuracy principle to select the class, to which the record is assigned, from the classes corresponding to a reference value or reference values, in which case that is selected, from of those corresponding to the reference value or reference values, which has the definition of which the greatest number of classification structure conditions are met.

The dependent claims, being definite, further limiting, and fully enabled by the specification are also allowed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion/Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ALEXANDRIA Y. BROMELL whose telephone number is (571)270-3034. The examiner can normally be reached M - R during normal business hours of 9 and 3. However, examiner is on Increased Flextime Schedule (IFP), so she will return any missed calls promptly if she is away from the office.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John R. Cottingham can be reached on 571-272-7079. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Alexandria Y Bromell/
Examiner, Art Unit 2167
December 13, 2010

/Shahid Al Alam/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2162

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